

taken a look at these Web sites and it helps me understand what's going on in the minds of the folks that are voting on that side of the aisle of the United States Congress. So my little visit over last weekend to the Democratic Socialists of America Web site, and I would point out that is the Socialist Party of America, that little visit to that Web site tells me a few things. First, they make the argument that they're not Communists. You can get into the nuances of that, Mr. Speaker, and I would encourage you to look at that definitional difference. I think it's a nuance, the difference between their definition of socialism and communism, but it comes to this. They don't believe everything should be owned by the government. They think that there are small businesses that need to be run by entrepreneurs, supply and demand, barber shops and convenience stores, presumably, not the chains, just the individuals, maybe the doughnut shop down the road, some of those things need to be run by individuals, but by and large their statement very clearly is, large companies need to be run by the people affected by them. That is a dramatic departure from one of the huge foundations of what's made this country great, our free market economy.

So we would actually see a position taken on a Web site of the Democratic Socialists of America that the government should make sure that we run these corporations for the benefits of, well, let's just say the people affected by them. That would mean, then, that the telephone customers would be the ones who would call the shots. They would say, here's how it benefits me, and you would make those decisions according to my wishes, not according to me paying by bills willingly. Let's just say that you had a sports bar chain. Well, then you'd run that for the benefit of the people that are using it. So I guess the drinkers would make the call there, Mr. Speaker. That's the philosophy that they define as different than communism, and I think it's a nuance. But when I look at that philosophy and I see within that page that they call for the nationalization of the oil industry, the nationalization of the refineries and I'm watching out of this Congress come a call for the nationalization of our auto manufacturers and imposing regulations on them so that they do not have the latitude to clearly and freely make a profit without the government telling them what to do, then I read through the Democratic Socialists of America and they say we are an active political party but we do not advance candidates on our ticket because our legislative wing is the Progressive Caucus in the United States Congress. I'll say it again. Our legislative wing is the Progressive Caucus in the United States Congress. That's right off the Democratic Socialists of America Web site. So go there. I think that's the Congressional Progressives that was the poster that was here and

that's what I want to check. But I know that on that list there are 72 Members of Congress, one Member of the United States Senate, a self-professed socialist, 72 Members in this Congress who constantly are advocating for the policies that I read on the socialist Web site. The link is there. They claim the link. The Progressive Caucus has the Web site and it names the people and the Members, and today they hold gavels and they're Chairs of committees, full committees, Chairs of subcommittees. These are the people that are advocating the policies that scared the living daylight out of the American people in the aftermath of World War II. And we quit saying words that are considered to be pejorative about folks who want to collectivize our American economy and assets.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I think it is important that you, all Members of this Congress and the American people go visit those Web sites, do a little research, dig into it themselves and then listen to the debate. Because once you understand the source of the ideas, then it's easier to understand where this is going. And we can see piece by piece, component by component, how this is being linked together, how Americans are losing their freedom piece by piece, how we're trading our freedom off for dependency one government policy at a time. A perfect example would be the SCHIP legislation that passed off the floor of this house today on its way to the President's desk. It may have been signed by now. I saw the giddy glee with which some people were applauding when that passed. I will tell you, it makes me sick at heart, Mr. Speaker. The SCHIP program, I describe it as Socialized Clinton-style Healthcare for Illegals and their Parents. And it is. It lays a foundation stone for socialized medicine in America. It was passed out of this Congress first in 1997. And I supported it as a State Senator. We took it up to 200 percent of poverty. I didn't have the understanding of how the machinery of politics churns us through year by year, decade by decade and generation by generation and brings us inevitably to a point where SCHIP at 200 percent of poverty, designed to help needy children and needy families that couldn't pay for the health insurance and made enough money that they didn't qualify for Medicaid, all under the right kind of motives, both sides, Republicans and Democrats, was brought first out of the floor of this Congress a little over a year ago, not at 200 percent of poverty but a family of four, all families that is a standard, at 400 percent of poverty, brought to this floor, passed off this floor with a straight face over to the Senate. 400 percent of poverty. That in my State would have paid a subsidy for health insurance premiums in families of four that made \$106,000 a year, while we're charging people alternative minimum tax because that's taxing people that

are too rich, and 70,000 families in America would qualify to pay the rich man's tax, the alternative minimum tax, 70,000 families, and at the same time qualify to have the health insurance for their children subsidized by the taxpayer. We've crossed the line, gone across that line over into a huge foundation stone for socialized medicine.

Well, it came back to this Congress, we shot it down, the President of the United States, President Bush, vetoed the SCHIP bill. Now it came back to us today, the conference report, that set simply a 300 percent of poverty to avoid the criticism. There are waivers in there that allow States like New Jersey and New York to go to 400 percent of poverty, or more, and the restraints are not there so that they can write more waivers and essentially it is health insurance for children and children of millionaires do qualify for this bill that passed the floor today. Children of millionaires will have their health insurance paid for by middle-income and low-income and upper-income taxpayers when it can't be justified. This bill that passed off of here today takes at least 2.4 million children off of private sector insurance and puts them over onto the public dole. And when you get to that point, you have reached a foundation stone for socialism, Mr. Speaker, and that's the essence of my discussion today.

I thank the Speaker for his indulgence, and I would yield back the balance of my time.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. STARK (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of medical reasons.

Mr. POE of Texas (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today until 3 p.m. on account of official business.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. WOOLSEY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHERMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SPRATT, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. DUNCAN) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for 5 minutes, February 10 and 11.

Mr. INGLIS, for 5 minutes, today and February 10.